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The MAGAZINE OF YOUTH AND LOVE!

Romantic Adventures

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52
PAGES
OF
REAL
ROMANCE!



Announcing... DOUBLE-BARRELED DYNAMITE!

ONCE MORE THE AMERICAN COMICS GROUP MAKES HISTORY... WITH NOT ONE, BUT TWO OF THE GREATEST BOOKS WHICH EVER HIT THE STANDS! BY PUBLIC DEMAND—

Here they are!



New... Novel... A BLAZING BOMBSHELL! THRILL TO THE ROMANCE, GLAMOR AND BREATHLESS EXCITEMENT OF AMERICA'S UNSUNG HEROES! SEE UNCLE SAM'S COUNTERSPIES AT GRIPS WITH SINISTER FOREIGN AGENTS... IN PAGES OUT OF REAL LIFE ITSELF! IT'S "MUST" READING FOR EVERY PATRIOT!



The GREAT NEW MAGAZINE THAT DARES TO BE DIFFERENT! YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ANOTHER LIKE THIS ONE! THE SWEETEST ROMANCES THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN -- BUT THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING!! FOR THIS IS TRUE LOVE -- THE KIND THAT CAN COME TO YOU! IT'S GRIPPING, PULSING ... WITH EVERY HEART-THROB PACKING A PUNCH--AND A SURPRISE! IT'S THE ONE LOVE MAGAZINE YOU'LL LOVE!



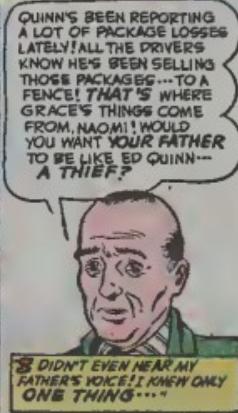
DON'T MISS THESE TERRIFIC TWINS!
ON SALE NOW!

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The CROOKED ROAD to ROMANCE



"THIS DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE BEGINNING OF A LOVE STORY, DOES IT? AND YET, AS I RECALL THE STORY OF MY ROMANCE, THAT'S HOW IT BEGAN! I WAS STORMED WITH RAGE AND RESENTMENT THAT NIGHT...THREE YEARS AGO..."





"I WASN'T REALLY BAD! IT WAS JUST THAT I WANTED SO MANY THINGS—CLOTHES AND GOOD TIMES! AND EVEN THOUGH I KNEW, DEEP DOWN, THAT I WAS WRONG, I MADE A FRIGHTENING DECISION!"



"MY OWN WAY! IT WAS A DISHONEST WAY... I KNEW IT THEN AS I KNOW IT NOW! BUT I IGNORED MY INNER FEARS AND WARNINGS! THE VERY NEXT DAY..."



"I HAD TO GET OUT OF THAT STORE! I WAS SHAKING WITH FEAR! AND THEN..."



PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T TURN ME IN! I'M SORRY... I'LL GIVE IT BACK... I'LL WORK AND PAY FOR IT...



"FOR A MOMENT RELIEF FLOODED OVER ME, AND THEN... PANIC! I KNEW HE HAD SEEN ME, THIS HANDSOME, SHARP-EYED STRANGER! WHAT WAS HE TRYING TO DO?"



"YES, WE HAD THINGS TO TALK ABOUT, BUZZ DONNELLY! AND I: AND, AS WE WALKED AND TALKED, MY PANIC BEGAN TO MELT AWAY..."

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN, KID! I CAN TELL YOU'RE REALLY STRAIGHT, HONEST! YOU MUST BE DESPERATE, TO BE LOOTIN' STORES!"

"OH, I WAS... I AM! YOU DO UNDERSTAND, DONT YOU?"

"Y KNOW SOMETHIN'? I ADMIRE YOU FOR WHAT YOU'RE TRYIN' TO DO!"

"ADMIRE ME? WHY?"

"I DIDN'T NEED WORDS WITH HIM-- HE UNDERSTOOD FROM THE START! HE TOLD ME HIS NAME AND THAT HE WAS A PROMOTER! I COULD TELL WE WERE GOING TO BE FRIENDS!"

"BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT COURAGE, NAOMI! YOU DESERVE TO HAVE A TERRIFIC TIME AT THAT PROM... I WISH I WAS THE LUCKY GUY CALLIN' FOR YOU!"

"OH, BUZZ, THERE IS NO ONE CALLING FOR ME! I MEAN--HE'S JUST A KID--HE CAN GET SOME OTHER DATE! I MEAN..."

"YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF A PROM DATE, BABY-- WITH ORCHIDS!"

"NEXT DAY..."

"DARLING, YOU'RE A PRINCESS IN THAT DRESS! BUT-- BUT-- WHERE DID YOU SAY YOU GOT IT?"

"I--UH-- BORROWED IT FROM ONE OF THE GIRLS!"

"I WENT TO THE PROM ON BUZZ DONNELLY'S ARM! I CAN STILL REMEMBER HOW I FELT THAT NIGHT-- AS THOUGH I WERE TOO SMALL TO HOLD ALL THE HAPPINESS INSIDE ME!"

"LOOK AT NAOMI PHILLIPS' DRESS-- IT'S EXPENSIVE! AND SHE'S GOT ORCHIDS!"

"HAMMM-- WHO'S THAT GOOD-LOOKING GUY SHE'S GOT?"

"I WAS DANCING IN A DREAM! THIS WAS WHAT I HAD WANTED!"

"I-- I DIDN'T KNOW ANYONE COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL! LOOK, KID-- LET'S SIT THE REST OF THIS DANCE OUT-- OUTSIDE!"

"**L**AWY HEART POUNDING, I WAITED FOR HIM TO SPEAK!"

MAYBE THIS IS TOO Sudden FOR YOU, KID
BUT NOT FOR ME! SOMETHIN' HAPPENED
TO ME THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU! I'M
FALLIN' IN LOVE WITH
YOU NAOMI!! DO YOU
MIND?

MIND, BUZZ?
IT'S LIKE
HEAVEN!

"**A**ND THE NEXT INSTANT... IT WAS!"



"**T**HAT NIGHT, MY DREAMS WERE ROSY..."

IT'S OUR HOME BABY!
NO MORE STRUGGLE, NO
MORE POVERTY FOR YOU!
I'M GOIN' TO GIVE YOU
EVERYTHIN' YOU'VE
WANTED... WITH
ALL MY LOVE!

"**M**Y DREAMS
DIDN'T STOP!
THEY FILLED
MY LIFE
COMPLETELY...
AND THEY
WERE COMING
TRUE! BUZZ
AND I WENT
EVERWHERE
TOGETHER. WE
COULDN'T STAY
AWAY FROM
EACH OTHER!"

"**W**AIT'LL YOU SEE THE
PLACE WE'RE GOIN'
TO, BABY... YOU'LL
BE CRAZY ABOUT
IT!"

I'M CRAZY
ABOUT YOU,
BUZZ!



DARLING, BEING WITH YOU IS ALL I EVER WANT.
ALL THE TIME! I CAN'T **WAIT** UNTIL WE'RE
MARRIED! IT... IT WILL BE **SOON**, WONT IT?

I KNEW THIS
WOULD COME, KID!
SO NOW'S YOUR
TURN TO UNDER-
STAND ME!

I **WANT** TO MARRY YOU,
BABY, BUT LISTEN... YOU'VE
GOT TO KNOW THIS! YOU
SEE, I WAS AS POOR AS
YOU, KID... AS RESENTFUL
AND BITTER AS YOU! SO...
I DID THE SAME THING...
WENT OUT AND HELPED
MYSELF TO WHAT I
WANTED! THAT'S THE
WAY I MAKE MY
LIVING!

ALL I NEED IS ONE MORE MONTH...
AND YOUR HELP! THEN WE CAN
QUIT THE RACKET AND START A
LEGITIMATE DEAL... **AS MR. AND**
MRS.! WHAT DO YOU SAY, BABY?

BUZZ, I CAN'T... THINK!
I CAN'T **BELIEVE** IT!
I DON'T KNOW **WHAT**
TO SAY!



A THOUSAND THINGS FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND... BUZZ WAS A THIEF! HE TOO HAD SUFFERED POVERTY--BEEN TEMPTED! HOW COULD I CONDEMN HIM--I LOVED HIM!

LOOK, BABY, WOULD YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THAT POVERTY AGAIN? BELIEVE ME, I'M ONLY BORROWIN'---I'LL MAKE GOOD ON EVERY CENT I'VE TAKEN! WHAT DO YOU SAY, LOVELY?

"BUZZ WAS AT WAR WITH HIMSELF! ON ONE SIDE WAS HIS REAL HONESTY, THE DECENT WAY I'D BEEN RAISED; ON THE OTHER WAS MY HATRED AND FEAR OF POVERTY--AND MY LOVE FOR BUZZ!"



I BELIEVE YOU, DARLING! IT IS ONLY BORROWING, ISN'T IT? AND YOU WILL MAKE IT GOOD? I... I'LL DO IT, BUZZ---BECAUSE I LOVE YOU!



"BUZZ PUT ME TO WORK--SHOWED ME 'THE TRICKS OF THE TRADE,' AS HE CALLED THEM! ALL THAT TIME, I WAS ASHAMED AND FRIGHTENED--I COULDN'T WAIT FOR THAT MONTH TO END."



"AND--AT LAST..."

HOLD ME CLOSER, BUZZ! I'M SO GLAD IT'S OVER! WELL BE MARRIED NOW, DARLING, WON'T WE? I'VE HATED THIS PAST MONTH--HATED IT!

I KNOW, BABY, SO HAVE I! BUT WE HAVEN'T FINISHED YET! THERE'S JUST ONE MORE JOB--THE LAST ONE!



BE A BRAVE GIRL, NAOMI! YOU'LL NEED ALL YOUR COURAGE FOR THIS ONE! BUT WHEN IT'S OVER, I'LL BUY YOU A GOLD WEDDING BAND---WITH MY INITIALS ON IT!

BUZZ, WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?

BUZZ DONNELLY
PROMOTER

WEAR YOUR BEST CLOTHES, KID! WALK INTO THE DUFRESNE JEWEL SHOP AS THOUGH YOU COULD BUY THE PLACE! ASK TO SEE THE BLAKE DIAMOND! AND---WHILE THEY'RE GETTIN' IT--- PICK UP EVERYTHING THAT'S NOT CHAINED DOWN!

BUZZ...
I'M SCARED!



BUZZ ALWAYS KNEW JUST THE RIGHT WORDS TO SAY--AND HOW TO SAY THEM!

SILLY KID! WHO'D EVER SUSPECT A DAME RICH ENOUGH TO ASK FOR THE BLAKE DIAMOND? THEY'LL NEVER TOUCH YOU! AND REMEMBER, IT'S THE LAST JOB, BABY! AFTER THIS... WE GET MARRIED!

ALL RIGHT,
BUZZ, OUR LAST JOB!
AFTER THIS...
WE GET MARRIED!



"BUZZ HAD TAUGHT ME WELL! I KNEW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO AS I ENTERED THE DUFRESNE JEWEL SHOP! AND I KNEW THAT MY FUTURE... MINE AND BUZZ'S... DEPENDED ON MY DOING IT--RIGHT!"

THE BLAKE DIAMOND? I AM AWARE OF THAT... DID YOU KNOW, MADAME, OF THAT... THAT IT IS PRICED AT \$100,000?

I MAY SEE IT, PLEASE?

"BUZZ WATCHED HIM TURN TOWARDS THE VAULT! BUZZ'S INSTRUCTIONS RANG IN MY EARS--AS MY FINGERS DARTED TO AN UNGUARDED TRAY..."

"JUST TAKE WHAT I CAN--
AND GET OUT! OH, BUZZ,
IF I DIDN'T LOVE YOU...
I HAVE FAITH IN YOU..."



"HE RETURNED WITH THE FABULOUS DIAMOND! I KNEW I HAD TO SAY SOMETHING... FAST--AND LEAVE! I LOOKED AT THE PRECIOUS BAUBLE--"

"IT'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT I DON'T THINK IT WILL DO FOR ME! THANK YOU AND ..."



"AND THEN--THEY STRUCK! I KNEW COLD FEAR AND THE GREATEST SHOCK I HAD EVER FELT--"

"OKAY, YOU... REACH!
THIS IS A STICKUP!"



"IT HAPPENED SO FAST--THE BLACK, EVIL GUNS... THAT GANGSTER SNATCHING THE DIAMOND--AND THEN, THE EERIE WAIL OF SIRENS!"



"WHAT... WHAT'S THAT?
OUR BURGLAR ALARM,
MADAME! PLEASE REMAIN
WHERE YOU ARE UNTIL--
THE POLICE GET HERE!"



"WHERE WAS BUZZ? WHY WASN'T HE WITH ME... HELPING ME? I WAS FRANTIC WITH FEAR AS THEY CLOSED IN ON ME..."

QUIET A COINCIDENCE! YOU ASK TO SEE THE BLAKE DIAMOND... JUST IN TIME FOR THE ROBBERS TO STRIKE!

"WELL TAKE HER ALONG FOR FURTHER QUESTIONING!"



"IT WAS A NIGHTMARE!
THOSE MEN, THREATENING ME--UNDER THE RED-HOT GLARE OF THE LIGHTS!
I KNEW ONLY ONE THING--
I HAD TO PROTECT BUZZ!"

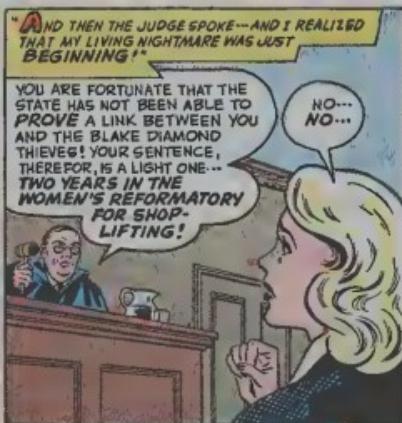


"THE MATRON FOUND STOLEN RINGS IN YOUR PURSE!"

"YOU WERE PLANTED IN THAT STORE--BY THE CROOKS WHO LIFTED THE BLAKE DIAMOND!
WHO ARE THEY?"

"I...YES,
I STOLE
THOSE RINGS!
BUT I DON'T
KNOW ANYTHING
ABOUT THOSE
BURGLARS! I
DON'T KNOW!"





"POURED FORTH ALL MY VENOM AND HATRED IN ONE GREAT SURGE! I HARDLY KNEW WHAT I WAS SAYING AS I FLUNG MY ACCUSATIONS AT HIM... THIEF... COWARD... LIAR..."

"...AND NOW, GET OUT!"

"LISTEN TO ME FOR A SECOND... LOOK AT ME! CAN'T YOU SEE HOW I'VE BEEN LIVING, SUFFERING? I NEVER SAW THAT BLAKE DIAMOND, HONEY! I WAS SCARED TO COME FORWARD AT YOUR TRIAL--"

"...SCARED THAT MY REPUTATION WOULD HURT YOU! I TRIED TO GET YOU OFF... SPENT EVERY LAST CENT I HAD ON POLITICIANS, FIXERS, EVERYBODY... BUT IT DIDN'T WORK! HONEY, LOOK AT ME! I'VE BEEN SICK AND HEART-BROKEN... FOR YOU!"

"THE HARD KNOT INSIDE ME MELTED AS I LOOKED AT HIM, HEARD HIS TENDER, PLEADING VOICE. HE HADN'T LIED TO ME... AND HE HAD COME BACK!"

"OH, BABY, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU! FROM NOW ON, THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT... WE'LL BOTH GET JOBS AND..."

"NO! STOP THAT TALK, BUZZ!"

"I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT PRISON HAD DONE TO ME, HOW IT HAD CHANGED ME! I WOULD NEVER GO BACK TO POVERTY NOW... NOT AFTER THE PRICE I HAD PAID!"

"FORGET JOBS, BUZZ! THIS TIME, THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT! NO MISTAKES, NO POLICE... ARE YOU GAME TO CONTINUE OUR PARTNERSHIP... WITH BIGGER STAKES?"

"NAOMI, KID... THIS IS WHAT I'VE BEEN LIVING FOR!"

"BUZZ HAD A REAL PLAN... A BIG PLAN, THIS TIME! IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO DIGEST IT..."

"DON'T YOU SEE, KID? THIS EMERSON WILL BE NEEDING A NEW SECRETARY... SOMEONE HE CAN TRUST! I'D LIKE HER TO BE SOMEONE I CAN TRUST, TOO--TO GET THE LOCATION OF THAT MINE!"

ROD EMERSON RETURNS FROM AFRICA

"HEALTHY YOUNG PROSPECTOR IS SILENT ON LOCATION OF THE RICH PLUTONIUM MINE. WITH THE NATION'S OF THE WORLD BIDDING FOR PLUTONIUM THERE'S A RARE DISCOVERY STORE FOR THE DISCOVERER OF THIS RARE METAL. THE LOCATION OF EMERSON'S MINE, HOWEVER, IS KNOWN ONLY TO HIM. HE IS HIS ONLY CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY."

"YOU MEAN... ME!"

"IT WAS SO EASY THAT AS I LOOK BACK ON IT NOW, I WONDER I DIDN'T SUSPECT! ROD EMERSON FELL FOR MY ACT--HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER!"

"IT'S HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL WORK, MISS PHILLIPS, BUT... WELL, MAYBE I'M CRAZY TO PLAY HUNCHES--BUT I THINK YOU'LL BE PERFECT! YOU'RE HIRED!"

"BUT MY JOB WAS FAR FROM EASY! IT WAS HARD TO GET CLOSE TO HIM, TO GET AT THE INFORMATION I WAS AFTER! ROD EMERSON WAS A SERIOUS, FORMAL KIND OF GUY, WHO WORKED HARD...AND EXPECTED THE SAME FROM ME!"



"FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS, THE STEADY GRIND WENT ON...WORK-WORK! THEN, AT THE END OF A LONG, TOUGH DAY, I SAW MY FIRST BREAK!"

"I'M SORRY, MR. EMERSON! I THINK I'M A BIT OVER-TIRED!"

"YOU SHOULDN'T APOLOGIZE, MISS PHILLIPS. I SHOULD! HOW ABOUT CALLING IT QUIT AND HAVING SOME DINNER?"

"ALL THROUGH DINNER, I THOUGHT HOW DIFFERENT THIS WAS FROM MY FIRST DATE...HOW DIFFERENT THIS MAN WAS! AND I BEGAN TO WONDER..."

"I'D HAVE ASKED YOU TO DINNER SOONER, MISS PHILLIPS, BUT MY SHYNESS KEEPS GETTING IN MY WAY!"

"I'M GLAD YOU GOT OVER IT! I'M HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME...WITH YOU!"



"THIS SHYNESS SEEMED TO VANISH AS THE DAYS WENT BY, AND I KNEW THAT SOON, HIS FAITH IN ME WOULD BE COMPLETE! I WOULD GET WHAT I WAS AFTER! AND YET..."

"...SO YOU SEE, NAOMI, I SPRANG FROM UGLY POVERTY, TOO! BUT I FOUGHT IT WITH WORK AND STUDY, DRIVING MYSELF NIGHT AND DAY! AND I WON!"

"PERHAPS HIS WAY IS BETTER...THE EASY PATH. I CHOSE IS UGLY, GORDID..."

"I FOUGHT DOWN THE RISING SHAME WITHIN ME AS I REPORTED TO BUZZ THE FOLLOWING EVENING..."

"HE TRUSTS ME, BUZZ! IN A FEW DAYS, I'M GETTING THAT NEW PLUTONIUM CLAIM TO WORK ON, AND THEN..."

BABY, YOU'RE TERRIFIC!
I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU!"

"AS BUZZ SETLED ME IN HIS ARMS, I SUDDENLY FELT MISERABLE! I WANTED TO BREAK AWAY FROM HIM AS ROD EMERSON FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND! WAS I TURNING SOFT?"

"WELL DO IT, KID! THIS TIME WE'LL DO IT!"

"IT...IT SEEMS THAT WAY, BUZZ! AND I GUESS THE NEXT MOVE IS UP TO ME!"



"**NO**, I WAS NOT TURNING SOFT! GO BACK TO POVERTY? NEVER!! I REMEMBERED THOSE YEARS IN PRISON, AND MY DECISION WAS MADE! THE VERY NEXT DAY, MY BIG CHANCE CAME..."

HERE IT IS, NAOMI -- THE LOCATION OF MY PLUTONIUM CLAIM! WILL YOU COPY IT ON AN OFFICIAL FORM AND SEE THAT IT'S FILED?

OF COURSE,
ROD! MAY I
HAVE IT?

"**B**UZZ COULDN'T WAIT FOR ROD TO LEAVE, SO I COULD PHONE BUZZ AND TELL HIM OUR PLAN WAS WORKING!"

I LOVE YOU, BABY! NOW,
MEMORIZE THE LOCATION
...AND DESTROY HIS COPY;
THEN GET DOWN HERE ON
THE DOUBLE, YOU WONDER-
FUL KID!

IM COPYING IT, BUZZ...
DON'T WORRY! I'LL
BE RIGHT DOWN--UH
...THANK YOU SO
MUCH! GOODBYE!



"SOMETHING TOLD ME ROD HAD COME
BACK! AND, AS I LOOKED AT HIM, SO
HANDSOME, SO TRUSTING, SO GOOD, A
NEW FEELING CAME OVER ME! I TREMBLED
AS HE CAME NEARER..."

NAOMI, I JUST CAME BACK TO
TELL YOU THAT I TRUST YOU
...COMPLETELY! I GAVE
YOU THAT INFORMATION
AS A TOKEN OF MY
FAITH!

ROD
...OH,
ROD!

"**M**Y DEFENSES WERE DOWN!
FOR THE FIRST TIME, I SAW ROD
AS A MAN--A MAN TO BE HONORED
AND...LOVED! MY EYES FILLED
WITH TEARS OF SHAME AND
GUILT AS I REALIZED WHAT
I WAS! I TRIED TO SPEAK,
BUT..."



"**T**HAT WAS MY FIRST KISS OF LOVE!
I KNEW THEN HOW CHEAP AND CROOKED THE
OTHERS HAD BEEN! I KNEW THEN THAT I
COULD NEVER BETRAY ROD EMERSON!"

NAOMI,
COME
BACK!
I LOVE
YOU!

I CAN'T...
I CAN'T...



"**D**ON'T REMEMBER
HOW I GOT
TO BUZZ'S
OFFICE! BUT
BY THE TIME
I REACHED HIS
DOOR, I WAS
FIGHTING
HYSTERIC
PANIC! I HAD
TO STOP HIM!
AND THEN--
HIS VOICE..."

AS SOON AS NAOMI
BRINGS ME THE DOPE,
WE'LL BLOW THE U.S.
AND LIVE LIKE
KINGS!

AND LEAVE
THE MOLL
HOLDING THE
BAG AGAIN,
EH? NOT BAD,
BUZZ!

BUZZ
DONNELLY
PROMOTER

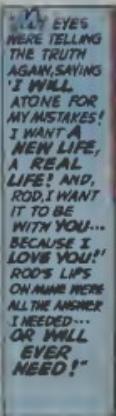
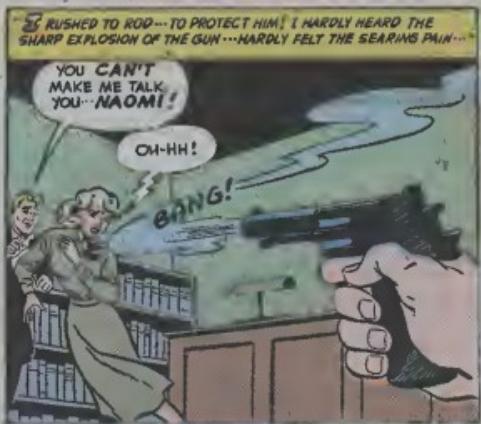
"**T**HEY DIDN'T SEE ME STANDING THERE--UNTIL IT WAS
TOO LATE!"

BOY, WHAT A CHUMP
SHE IS! THINKS SHE'S
THE ONLY DAME AT THE
END OF MY LINE--HAH! IT
WORKED WITH ALL OF 'EM,
AND I CLEANED UP! ONLY
THIS BABY'S BITING
TWICE!

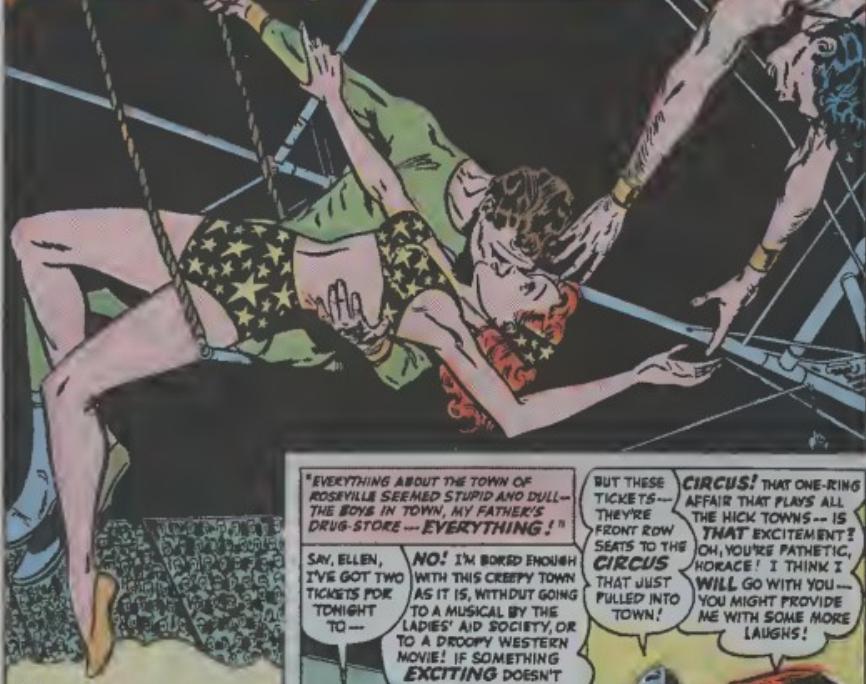
DO YOU
REALLY
THINK SO,
BUZZ?







The Heart on the FLYING TRAPEZE



"You've all heard about the Man on The Flying Trapeze—but he was more than just an old song to me!"

He was ROMANCE, dashing and impetuous—kindling within the heart of a small-town girl such a love as she had never dreamed of!

But there was tragedy, too, in this strange story of circus, tanbark—and shattered dreams...

"EVERYTHING ABOUT THE TOWN OF ROSEVILLE SEEMED STUPID AND DULL—THE BOYS IN TOWN, MY FATHER'S DRUG-STORE—EVERYTHING!"

SAY, ELLEN, I'VE GOT TWO TICKETS FOR TONIGHT TO—

NO! I'M BORED ENOUGH WITH THIS CREEPY TOWN AS IT IS, WITHOUT GOING TO A MUSICAL BY THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY, OR TO A DROOPY WESTERN MOVIE! IF SOMETHING EXCITING DOESN'T HAPPEN HERE SOON, I'LL ... I'LL ...

BUT THESE TICKETS—THEY'RE FRONT ROW SEATS TO THE CIRCUS THAT JUST PULLED INTO TOWN!

CIRCUS! THAT ONE-RING AFFAIR THAT PLAYS ALL THE HICK TOWNS—IS THAT EXCITEMENT? OH, YOU'RE PATHETIC, HORACE! I THINK I WILL GO WITH YOU—YOU MIGHT PROVIDE ME WITH SOME MORE LAUGHS!







"BUT I KNEW HE'D BE LEAVING IN TWO MORE DAYS, AND ALL MY WAKING AND SLEEPING THOUGHTS WERE FILLED WITH THE COLD DREAD THAT IF HE LEFT, HE'D FORGET ME ...AND NEVER COME BACK!"



"WE'RE ALL SET, BOSS! I'VE FOUND THE PERFECT TYPE GIRL FOR MY ACT--- SHE'S A NATURAL FOR THE RUBES TO GO FOR! AND I'VE GOT HER SO HOOKED THAT I'LL MAKE HER ASK ME IF SHE CAN JOIN THE TROUPE!"



"ROY, DID YOU
HEAR ME? ARE YOU THIS
CIRCUS'S PUBLICITY
AGENT OR ARE YOU
ANGLING FOR THE ANIMAL
FEEDER'S JOB?"



"ON DUKE'S LAST NIGHT, MY HEART WAS TENSE WITH THE FEAR OF LOSING HIM! I KNEW I WOULD DO ANYTHING, ANYTHING, TO KEEP HIM AT MY SIDE!"

"YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU, DARLING! AND I WANT TO MARRY YOU --- BUT NOT NOW, NOT UNTIL I'VE GOT A BIG ACT IN THE BIG TIME! BUT I DON'T KNOW WHEN THAT WILL BE, BECAUSE I'M STYMIED RIGHT NOW --- I MUST FIND THE RIGHT GIRL FOR MY ACT!"



"MY DECISION WAS AN IMPULSIVE ONE, BUT I KNEW FROM THE FEVER OF DUKE'S KISS THAT I HAD DONE THE RIGHT THING!"

"OH, DARLING, DARLING!
I'D LOVE TO HAVE
YOU --- I WAS SO
AFRAID I'D
LOSE YOU!"



"LATE THAT NIGHT, I STOLE FROM MY HOUSE, HEART POUNDING! I KNEW I WAS EMBARKING ON THE MOST THRILLING OF ADVENTURES -- CIRCUS LIFE, WITH THE MAN I LOVED!"



"THE FIRST FEW WEEKS, I DID LITTLE BUT STAND AROUND, TRICKED OUT IN TIGHTS, WHILE DUKE WAS DOING HIS ACT --- TO GIVE IT COLOR, HE SAID! BUT ONE DAY..."

"LOOK, DARLING, THINGS S., AREN'T GOING AS WELL AS I THOUGHT! YOU SEE, THE CROWDS LIKE TO HAVE A PRETTY GIRL DO SOMETHING IN THE ACT: IF ONLY YOU COULD HELP A LITTLE! I'D TRAIN YOU --- AND THERE'D BE NOTHING DANGEROUS, OF COURSE!"





"SWIFT, COLD ANGER SURGED UP INTO MY BRAIN WHEN I HEARD HIS WORDS! I WOULD NEVER BELIEVE WHAT HE SAID ABOUT DUKE---ABOUT MY LOVE! SUDDENLY, I HATED ROY LEWIS!"

WHY, YOU... YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS THAT DUKE AND I ARE HEADED FOR THE BIG-TIME, WHILE YOU'RE STUCK WITH YOUR PETTY SCRIBBLING! YOU'RE JUST A CONTEMPTIBLE...

HEY, I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU MAD BEFORE! WHY, YOU'RE EVEN LOVELIER ---



YOU---YOU'RE DESPICABLE! IF DUKE HEARS OF THIS, HE'LL KILL YOU! AND IF YOU EVER DARE TO SPEAK TO ME AGAIN, I'LL TELL HIM MYSELF!

GO ON, THEN --- LET THEM WRECK YOUR LIFE! YOU'RE RIDING HIGH NOW---BUT THE BUST-UP WILL COME, MARK MY WORD! I WASH MY HANDS OF YOU FROM HERE ON IN!



"RAGE AND TEARS ALMOST BLINDED ME AS I WALKED AWAY! I'D SHOW HIM! I'D MAKE GOOD---IF ONLY TO SPITE HIM! I HAD TO GET TO THE TOP---AND FAST!"

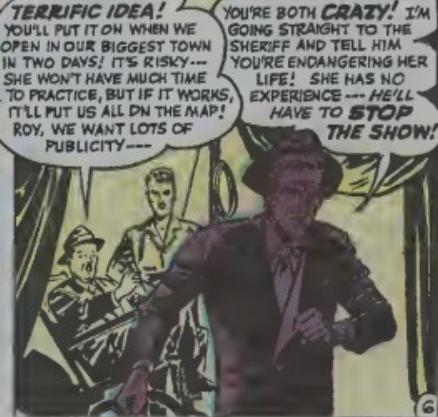
WHY, SURE, HONEY, I CAN PUT YOU INTO A SPECTACULAR ACT! AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE GOT AN IDEA THAT'LL PUT US BOTH IN THE BIG-TIME IN A MONTH!



I NEVER DREAMED SHE'D DO IT, BOSS, BUT SHE'S ALL EXCITED ABOUT IT! FDR SOME REASON! SHE DIDN'T HESITATE AT ALL WHEN I TOLD HER SHE'D HAVE TO RIDE A BICYCLE DOWN A RAMP, OFF INTO SPACE---WITHOUT A NET---AND I'D ZOOM IN ON THE TRAPEZE AND SNATCH HER JUST IN TIME!



TERRIFIC IDEA! YOU'LL PUT IT ON WHEN WE OPEN IN OUR BIGGEST TOWN IN TWO DAYS! IT'S RISKY---SHE WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME TO PRACTICE, BUT IF IT WORKS, IT'LL PUT US ALL ON THE MAP! ROY, WE WANT LOTS OF PUBLICITY---



YOU'RE BOTH CRAZY! I'M GOING STRAIGHT TO THE SHERIFF AND TELL HIM YOU'RE ENDANGERING HER LIFE! SHE HAS NO EXPERIENCE---HE'LL HAVE TO STOP THE SHOW!







BEST BUY FOR FISHING FANS!

the BLUE STRIPE FISHING SET

with "CLICK" Single Action Reel



The Blue Stripe Fishing Set includes all the fishing equipment necessary for pole and line fishing, trolling, or bait casting. Equipment just like Dad's. You'll have lots of happy hours hooking a string of fish with this light, handy, compact set.

The rod has action, strength, balance — just what a fisherman wants when he is trying to make long accurate casts. It's a two piece oil-tempered 46-inch rod, made of "whippy" steel, and nicely balanced with a wooden handle.

The "click" precision reel with a ratchet allows the line to play out smoothly, without jerking. Trigger control permits an instant stop and with this reel you'll never get a backlash. A little practice and you'll be able to lay the fly just where you want it—for more successful fishing.

The instruction book tells you how to wind the line on the reel . . . how to attach your hooks, sinkers and bait. Also instructions on pole fishing, trolling and bait casting. And it describes the fish that are found in the lakes and streams in the various sections of the United States—the bait to be used, etc. It's a handy little instruction booklet for the beginner—yet sufficiently comprehensive to outline the fundamentals of successful fishing.

BLUE STRIPE FISHING SET INCLUDES

- 1 Heavy-gauge solid metal "Carry Case" lithographed aluminum and black.
- 24 inches by 2½ inches, with a metal handle.
- 1 Two-piece oil-tempered "Whippy" Steel Rod, 46 inches long.
- 1 "Click" Precision Reel, with Ratchet.
- 2 Nylon Fishing Line
- 2 Sinkers
- 2 Assorted size Steel Fish Hooks.
- 2 Colored Fliner
- 2 Smeled Hook
- 1 Two-foot Gut Leader
- 1 Illustrated Instruction Booklet
- 1 Metal handy parts Box Can

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Order by mail and get your set for the fishing season now ahead. Send check or money order, and we will pay all mailing expense. Use the BLUE STRIPE FISHING SET for 10 days and if for any reason you don't want to keep it, mail it back and we'll refund the purchase price.

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Gentlemen:

Please send me BLUE STRIPE FISHING SETS Enclosed
you will find check or money order for (Sorry No C.O.D.'s)

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Address:

City: Zone: State:

I understand that if I am not satisfied with the BLUE STRIPE FISHING SET, I can send it back within 10 days after I receive it and get my money back.

MATCH-MAKERS don't **MARRY**

NAME ... **Serene Drew**
AGE ... 21
HEIGHT ... 5' 4"
WEIGHT ... 117
HAIR ... red brown
EYES ... golden brown

THE ADAMS AGENCY.
NAME ... **Dick Kenwalt**
AGE ... 25
HEIGHT ... 6' 2"
WEIGHT ... 185
HAIR ... dark black
EYES ... gray



"**L**OVE...FOR OTHERS! MARRIAGE...FOR OTHERS! IT WAS STRANGE, IN A WAY, THAT I, BETH ADAMS, COULD MAKE OTHER GIRLS DREAMS OF LOVE COME TRUE, MAKE OTHER GIRLS ROMANCES FLOURISH AND BLOSSOM! BUT WHAT COULD I DO ABOUT MY OWN DREAMS? WOULD I EVER SEE THEM COME TRUE?"

"AT NINETEEN, I WAS CALLED THE PRETTIEST GIRL IN GREENDALE! IT WAS FUN TO BE HAPPY AND POPULAR... WONDERFUL TO BE IN LOVE..."

"IF SOMEONE HADN'T SORRY, DAVE, BUT SNARED YOU, BETH, I'VE BEEN SHARED COME TO THE DANCE...PERMANENTLY! MARK AND I ARE ENGAGED!"



"MY FIRST LOVE! I DANCED IN A CLOUD OF PERFUMED ROMANCE! THERE WERE JUST TWO PEOPLE IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE...MARK AND I!"

"YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, BETH...I CAN'T BELIEVE YOUR REAL!"

"I AM REAL, PARLING! I'M THE GIRL YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY...REMEMBER?"



"MARK'S MEMORY WAS SHORT! IN A SMALL TOWN, RUMORS SPREAD FAST, BUT EVEN SO, I PAS THE LAST TO HEAR THEM! AND I COULDN'T BELIEVE THEM. WOULDN'T BELIEVE THEM, UNTIL ONE AFTERNOON..."

"THERE GOES MARK... THAT BETH CHAPMAN WITH THAT NEW GIRL AGAIN! I HEAR HER CHIEF ATTRACTION IS HER MONEY!"



"I WANTED THE STREET TO OPEN AND SWALLOW ME UP... I WANTED TO RUN AWAY AND HIDE! INSTEAD... LATER..."

"I'VE... SENT BACK YOUR RING, MARK! AND... DON'T TRY TO SEE ME AGAIN... EVER!"



"MARK HAD FOOLED ME, MADE ME A LAUGHING-STOCK! I TRIED TO ESCAPE INTO MY OWN LITTLE SHELL, FAR AWAY FROM MEN..."

"HI, HONEY, LET'S SEE YOUR TIME WITH BETH ADAMS! SHE'S A MAN-HATER!"



"FOR ALMOST SIX MONTHS, I AVOIDED MEN! AND THEN MY BITTERNESS BEGAN TO FADE, AND MY MEMORY SOFTENED! FOR IT WAS THEN THAT I MET JIM HARLEY, AND THE WORLD SEEMED BEAUTIFUL AGAIN!"

"AND WHAT'S MORE, I CAN COOK! WAIT TILL YOU SEE OUR PICNIC LUNCH!"



"WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE, FOOD ISN'T VERY IMPORTANT, EVEN ON A PICNIC! WE WERE ALONE AND TOGETHER--THAT WAS ENOUGH! FOR I BELIEVED I HAD FOUND REAL LOVE... AT LAST!"

"BEAUTIFUL DARLING! I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU!"

"DON'T TRY, JIM-- SOME THINGS JUST CAN'T BE PUT INTO WORDS..."



"YES, IT WAS A HEAVENLY DAY--UNTIL THE NIGHTMARE MOMENT WHEN HORROR CHARGED TOWARD ME!"

"IT'S A MAD BULL! JIM, HELP ME... HELP..."



"THOSE WERE THE LAST WORDS I HEARD! THEY TOLD ME LATER THAT SOME FARMHANDS HAD BEATEN THE BULL OFF-- JUST IN TIME! BUT THE SHOCK OF JIM'S SELFISH CONARDICE HAD GONE DEEPER THAN MY WOUNDS..."

"...I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BETH! WILL YOU FORGIVE ME?"

"IT'S TOO LATE! YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH MY BEAUTY, JIM-- NOT ME! AND YOU'VE MANAGED TO DESTROY MY LOVE FOR YOU AND MY FAITH IN MEN!"



"WHEN I LEFT THE HOSPITAL, THE ONLY SCARS THAT I BORE WERE INVISIBLE! BUT I FELT THEM HOINTELESS--THOSE DEEP, PAINFUL HURRARIES AGAINST LOVE!"

"THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS ROMANCE--AT LEAST, NOT FOR ME! FROM NOW ON, I'M SAYING GOODBYE TO MEN... FOR GOOD!"



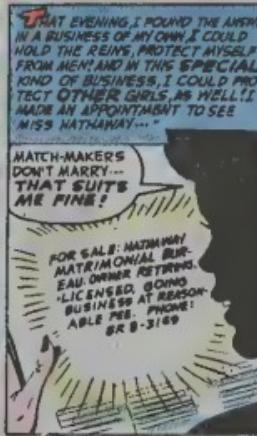
"BUT AS I SAID, RUMORS SPREAD FAST IN A SMALL TOWN! THIS TIME, IT WAS THE NEWS THAT MY ENGAGEMENT TO JIM WAS BROKEN! THERE WAS NO REST, NO PEACE, NO QUIET FOR ME FROM THE MOMENT I CAME HOME! EVERY UNATTACHED MAN IN TOWN TRIED TO SEE ME..."

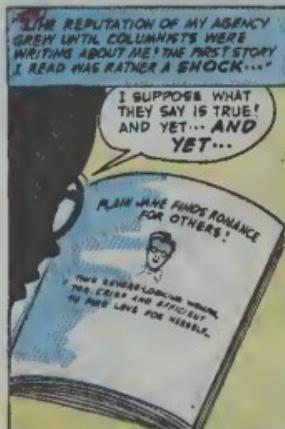


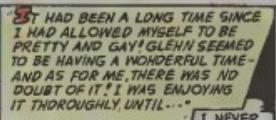
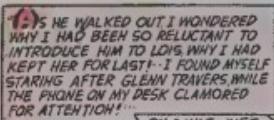
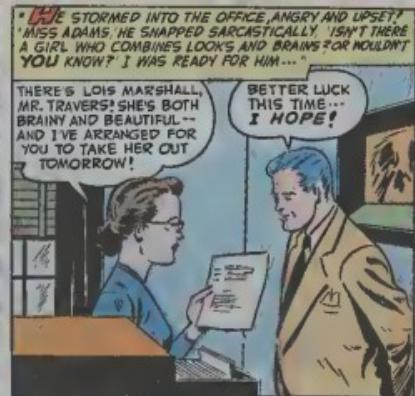
"I LEFT GREENDALE! I WANTED TO CALL MY LIFE MY OWN, TO GO TO A LARGE CITY WHERE BEAUTIFUL GIRLS WERE PLENTIFUL AND I WOULD BE ANONYMOUS—SAFE FROM THE OVERTURES OF MEN!"

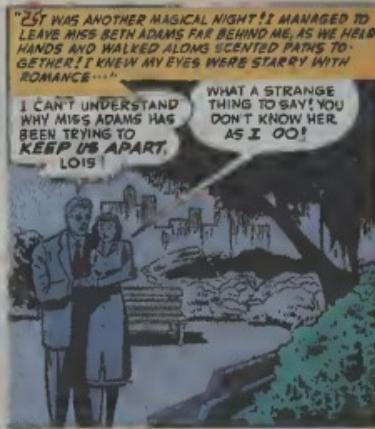


"I SOON LEARNED THAT NEW YORK WAS JUST A BIG SMALL TOWN! THERE WAS NO ESCAPING THE ENDLESS FLIRTATIONS AND COMPLIMENTS FORCED UPON ME! EVEN AT MY JOB..."









"FOR ME, IT WAS THE OLD STORY, ALL OVER AGAIN! I REHEMBERED MARK AND JIM AS I HEARD GLENN TRAVERS' VOICE ON THE PHONE THE NEXT DAY. ONLY THIS TIME, MY DESPAIR WAS DEEPER, MY HOPELESSNESS BLACKER. AS I REPEATED THE OLD, FAMILIAR WORDS..."

I'M SORRY, MR. TRAVERS, THE ADAMS AGENCY CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU! I WOULD ADVISE YOU TO TAKE YOUR PROBLEMS ELSEWHERE!"



"AND... BACK TO BUSINESS AGAIN! I FOUND IT HARD TO DRIVE GLENN FROM MY MIND, HARD TO FORGET THE KISS WE HAD SHARED THAT NIGHT! BUT TO LOOK AT ME, NO ONE WOULD EVER SUSPECT..."

MISS ADAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY RULES, FRANK AND I WISH TO ANNOUNCE OUR ENGAGEMENT!

WELL NEVER FORGET YOU, MISS ADAMS... YOU'VE BEEN SWELL!



"THIS PLAIN-LOOKING GIRL WAS BEAUTIFUL! LOVE HAD TRANSFORMED HER, SO THAT SHE GLOWED! I FELT OLDER AND PLAINER THAN EVER, ESPECIALLY WHEN SHE SAID..."

YOU'RE A MARVEL, MISS ADAMS! I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW A WOMAN LIKE YOU, WITH NO PERSONAL INTEREST IN ROMANCE, CAN BRING SO MUCH HAPPINESS TO OTHERS!"



"HER WORDS STAYED WITH ME, HURTING ME, FOR A VERY LONG TIME! BUT I WAS RESOLVED TO GO ON... ALONE! AND THEN, ONE AFTERNOON, WHEN I WAS LEAST PREPARED, HE CAME BACK INTO MY LIFE!"



THE TRAVERS FORTUNE... WIPE OUT IN STOCK MARKET CRASH... ESTATE TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION... OH, GLENN... GLENN!

AUCTION TODAY!

STARTS 2 PM

"I HAD TO SEE HIM... NOT SPEAK TO HIM OR TOUCH HIM... BUT JUST SEE HIM! FOR I KNEW THEN THAT I LOVED HIM AND ALWAYS WOULD! I DROVE UP TO THE ESTATE THAT DAY AND WANDERED ABOUT THE HALLS... HIS HOME..."



WELL, MISS ADAMS, COME TO BUY SOME OFFICE FURNISHINGS?

GLENN! MR. TRAVERS!

"I TURNED TO RUN... TO ESCAPE HIM... I HATED THAT HE SHOULD SEE ME THERE... AFRAID THAT I WOULD GIVE MYSELF AWAY! BUT HIS HANDS GRIPPED MY SHOULDERS FIRMLY..."



DON'T GO, MISS ADAMS! I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU... IN PRIVATE!

REALLY, I MUST...

"HIS IDEA OF PRIVACY WAS THE CENTER OF LILY LAKE! WE PADDLED OUT IN SILENCE AS I WAITED FOR HIM TO SPEAK... WAITED WITH TREMBLING UNCERTAINTY..."



ALL RIGHT, MISS ADAMS, HERE WE ARE! NOW, TELL ME, WHAT'S THE IDEA OF YOUR MASQUERADE?

YOU... YOU KNOW!

"QUIVERING WITH SHOCK, I STARTED CONVULSIVELY... AND THE LIGHT CANOE TIPPED OVER! AT THAT MOMENT, I WANTED TO SINK, TO GO UNDER, BUT..."

"HOLD ON! TIGHT
...I'LL GET US TO
SHORE!"



"MY HAIR HAD BECOME UNDONE... MY EYEGlasses HAD FLOATED INTO A CLUMP OF LILY PADS... MY DISGUISE HAD GONE OVERBOARD! AND HE KNEW IT! THERE WAS NO USE IN FURTHER PRETENSE..."

"THEN YOU KNEW
...YOU KNEW ALL
ALONG?"

"OF COURSE, I KNEW!
A WOMAN CAN CHANGE
HER HAIR AND HER DRESS
...BUT SHE CAN'T HIDE
THE EXPRESSION IN
HER EYES! TELL
ME...WHAT SORT OF GAME
WERE YOU PLAYING?"



"ONCE AGAIN, MY ANGER FLARED UP!
IT WAS THE SAME FURY I HAD FELT THAT
NIGHT IN THE PARK! I HAD TO TELL
HIM..."

"ALL RIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU! I
WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU, REALLY
IN LOVE WITH YOU! BUT YOU KNEW
IT ALL! YOU KNEW IT WAS YOUR
MONEY I WANTED! WELL, YOU'VE
LOST YOUR MONEY AND..."

"...I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH
YOU! BUT I WOULDN'T MARRY
YOU IF YOU WERE THE ONLY
MAN ALIVE! GOODBYE!"

BETH...WAIT
...YOU LITTLE
FOOL..."

"...HE RAN OFF... WILDLY, BLINDLY! I
HAD TOLD HIM MY SECRET, AND NOW
I WANTED TO HIDE! BUT I COULD HEAR
HIS FOOTSTEPS THUDDING AFTER ME,
HIS VOICE CALLING..."

"BETH, STOP! ALL RIGHT,
YOU ADORABLE IDIOT...
YOU ASKED FOR IT!"



"HARDLY ROMANTIC,
WAS IT? HE BROUGHT
ME DOWN WITH ALL
THE GENTLENESS OF A
FOOTBALL TACKLE--
AND I LOVED IT!
I PRETENDED TO BE
VERY ANGRY,
BUT..."

"LET ME
ALONE! LET
ME GO!"

NEVER! I LOVED YOU
WHEN YOU WERE STAIT
AND PRIM--I LOVE YOU
EVEN MORE NOW--THE
WAY YOU REALLY ARE!
I'LL NEVER LET
YOU GO!"



"...HE DIDN'T WANT HIM TO LET ME GO... EVER!
AT LAST, MY OWN DREAMS OF LOVE HAD
COME TRUE! I WAS ONE MATCH-MAKER WHO'D
MADE HER OWN MATCH!"



CLOTHES HORSE

MIKE ELLIOT had been away for two years and it felt great to be home again. It was wonderful to be on the way to his sister Elly's for one of those afternoon cocktail parties that made his sister a prize hostess. "Only one thing that bothers me," Mike thought, "and that's this girl she's been writing about. Elly's afraid I'm going to remain a bachelor . . . and she's bound to try match-making! I guess I've been hard to please . . . but this *Phyllis Arnold* she's been writing about sounds terrific! But she'll probably turn out to be another of Elly's momentary enthusiasms!"

He rang the doorbell and was admitted. For about ten minutes, Mike was swamped by friends who were happy to have him back. When the hubbub died down, he drew a deep breath and looked about the gay, colorful room. And then . . . Mike Elliot drew in his breath sharply. For there, in a far corner of the room, was the girl! She was slim and dark, and though Mike could not see the color of her eyes, he could see that they were large and luminous. He turned to his sister and said, "Elly, I want to meet that girl!"

"Of course, you do!" Elly laughed. "That's Phyllis Arnold!"

As they pushed through the crowd, Elly lowered her voice discreetly. "I might as well tell you now, Mike, Phyllis is being very ardently pursued by a very rich guy . . . Victor Mace! He's around here somewhere."

Mike didn't bother to answer. How could he, when he was looking down into the loveliest face in the world and wondering how long he must know this girl before he could kiss her?

Elly left them alone and for a moment they looked at each other. Then,

without a word, they moved to the privacy of the terrace. It was a brief conversation . . . one of those trite exchanges that people make upon first meeting. And all the time, Mike's eyes were on her face, and his thoughts were stronger than her soft musical voice.

Phyllis was saying something that ended in "don't you think so?" when Mike decided he could no longer wait! So, he reached over and put his arms around this beautiful girl. She came towards him, shyly and yet willingly, her lips raised. There were no words for that kiss, blended of fire and sweet-ness, of electric excitement and deep understanding. Reluctantly, Mike felt her lips free themselves from his. Reluctantly, he stepped back, away from this enchantment.

Then it happened! As he stepped back, his hand slipped a cocktail glass on a nearby tray, and the drink went splashing down the front of Phyllis' skirt, forming a long, ugly stain on the pale pink satin. He was not prepared for what followed. "Oh, how clumsy you are!" Phyllis cried, her voice sharp with dislike. "You've ruined this dress!"

"Yes, that's quite a boner, old man," a new voice said.

Mike Elliott felt a surge of dislike as he faced the man who had stepped protectively to Phyllis' side. He knew instinctively that this must be Victor Mace . . . knew it by the way the newcomer dabbed at her dress with his handkerchief, knew it by the things he said.

"Boorish, my dear, but what can you expect? Some fellows have a good deal of trouble acquiring manners, while others . . ."

Mike didn't wait to hear the rest.

He was sick at heart. This girl, who seemed to be a promise of love was a . . . a clothes-horse! All she cared about was the impression she made in that obviously expensive dress! He refused to listen to Elly's explanations as he turned and stalked out of the party, away from the bright chatter that had now become empty. All that week, he refused to discuss Phyllis at all, shutting off Elly's references to this girl . . . this girl he thought he might have loved. . . .

It was a sunny day, a perfect day for the racetrack. Mike was almost relaxed and serene as his eyes scanned the crowd. "I'm lucky," he thought. "I've managed to shake off any stupid ideas I had about . . . her!" He caught his breath and knew he was lying to himself. For she was there, only three rows away, more exquisite, more tempting than ever. Suddenly, Mike forgot the bad dreams, the harsh images he had carried throughout the week. He knew only that his pulses began to pound at the sight of her!

Ignoring Victor Mace's lazy drawl, "See who comes!" Mike smiled at Phyllis, hoping that she would smile back. Like a miracle, it happened! Her eyes crinkled at the corners, her lips curved deliciously, as she extended her hand and invited Mike to join them. Nothing was said, and yet it was as though they were telling each other, "*I love you! Later we will meet!*"

"I can wait," Mike thought, touching a match to his pipe.

"Be careful!" Mace called, but it was too late. A tiny, glowing ember flew from Mike's pipe, landing on Phyllis' shoulder. Before it could be brushed away, a small ugly hole seared the delicate cashmere.

"You . . . you're impossible!" Phyllis snapped, tears filling her eyes.

"Bad breeding," Victor Mace began, "leads to bad . . ."

"Feelings!" Mike finished. "You've said enough about manners, son! You've said enough about me, so . . .

shut up!" His fist connected sharply with Mace's chin, and Mace slumped loosely back against the bench.

"As for you," Mike turned on Phyllis, "I give up! You look gracious, sweet, fine . . . but you're not! Sure, you're dressed to kill, I can see that! You're dressed to kill *love*!"

That night, he told Elly he was leaving the city, taking a job out of town. Elly argued, pleaded that he had not given Phyllis a fair chance. But Mike was through . . . finished.

Elly wouldn't let him leave until he had promised her one small thing. "I'm not asking much, Mike," she insisted. "All I want you to do is step into Mme. Adrienne's Salon and ask for Miss Arnold . . . today!"

Her request was strange enough to arouse Mike's newspaper blood. And so, he found himself in the lavish waiting room of the city's swankiest dress salon, saying to Mme. Adrienne, "I would like to speak with Miss Phyllis Arnold!"

"I'm so sorry," Mme. smiled, "but Miss Arnold I have been forced to dismiss! Twice in one week, she has damaged expensive models. Would you care to see another mannequin?"

"Mannequin!" Mike almost shouted the words. "You mean she . . . she was modelling those clothes? Was responsible for them? And I thought . . ."

He took the steps to Phyllis' apartment three at a time. When she opened the door, Mike knew exactly what to do . . . and did it! "Darling, I was stupid!" he murmured. "That first meeting should have told me all I need to know about you . . . all I ever want to know!"

"They told me you were wonderful, Mike," Phyllis smiled through her tears, "and the first time I saw you . . . and you kissed me . . ."

". . . will he nothing like *this*?" Mike promised, tilting her head back, drying her tears and bringing his lips close to hers.

And he kept his promise!

" I can't say when it first began -- that nameless dread -- that morbid, unnatural feeling of fright whenever I found myself alone with a **MAN!** Even when I finally met the man of my dreams, it was the same story, for --

I Feared My HEART



"AS FAR BACK AS HIGH SCHOOL--"

BOY - WHAT A KNOCKOUT! I'D SURE LIKE TO KNOW THAT BABE BETTER -- WHAT'S HER NAME?

ALICIA MORRISON -- AND IF YOU WEREN'T NEW HERE, YOU'D KNOW BETTER -- YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!



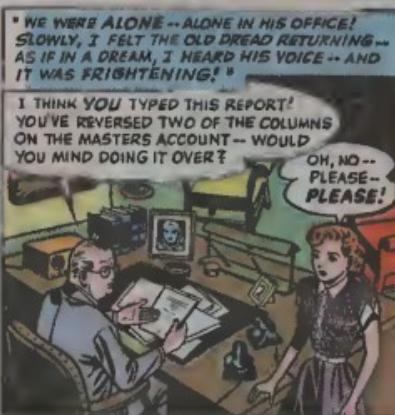
"THAT AFTERNOON -- AFTER SCHOOL --"

HEY, BEAUTIFUL -- WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?





YES, THAT'S THE WAY IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN--AS LONG AS I COULD REMEMBER! ALWAYS THAT TERRIFYING, SICKENING FEAR WHEN I WAS ALONE WITH A MAN! IT WAS LIKE THAT ALL THROUGH SCHOOL--AND THEN CAME--GRADUATION! HOW I'D HAVE TO FACE THE WORLD-- A HOSTILE, FRIGHTENING WORLD-- OF MEN!!



"I KNEW I HAD TAKEN THE EASY WAY OUT -- THAT I SHOULD HAVE FOUGHT MY BATTLE AGAINST FEAR! BUT I JUST COULDN'T. PERHAPS IT WAS BETTER-- THIS WAY!"

I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH READING FOR ONE DAY, MY DEAR!"

"YOU'RE SO CONSIDERATE-- I JUST LOVE WORKING FOR YOU!"



"BUT - ONE MORNING --"

I WANT YOU TO MEET MY SON, EARL -- HE'S JUST COME FROM COLLEGE AND WILL SPEND HIS SUMMER VACATION WITH US!

OH! HOW-- HOW DO YOU DO...



"I KNEW IT HAD BEEN TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE -- I'D EITHER LOSE THIS JOB OR QUIT -- JUST LIKE THE OTHERS! BUT EARL SEEMED SINCERE, GENTLE-- DIFFERENT!"

NO ONE WHO PLAYS LIKE THAT-- SO QUIETLY, GENTLY-- COULD BE CRUEL!"

"YOU SURPRISED ME -- I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE LISTENING! DO YOU LIKE MUSIC?"



"IF YOU'D LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY, I COULD TEACH YOU!"

"YOU'D REALLY TEACH ME? WHY-- THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL!"



"GRADUALLY, UNDER HIS CAREFUL INSTRUCTION, MY TIMIDITY RELAXED, AND I FELT ALMOST NORMAL! ONE DAY HE WALKED IN ON ME. SUDDENLY-- AND FOR A MOMENT THE OLD DREAD FLARED UP! BUT I WAS BEING SILLY-- HE WAS DIFFERENT!"

"OH, THERE YOU ARE! NOT HIDING FROM ME, I HOPE!"

"WHY-- OF COURSE NOT, EARL!"



"EARL CAME CLOSER! HE WAS LOOKING AT ME-- IN A WAY HE NEVER HAD BEFORE!"

"YOUR--EYES! I NEVER SAW THEM--LIKE THAT-- NO? THEN YOU NEVER KNEW THAT I WAS INTERESTED IN SOMETHING BESIDES MUSIC -- YOU!"







THEN
I WASN'T
CRAZY--HERE
WAS SOMEONE
LIKE ME!
HE'D
NEVER
FRIGHTEN
ME--
SO, FOR
THE FIRST
TIME
I COULD
REMEMBER,
I FELT
COMPLETELY
AT EASE--
WITH A
MAN!

"COULD THIS BE ME,
ALICIA MORRISON--
ACTUALLY ENJOYING
MALE COMPANY?"

I FELT CONFIDENT,
SUPREMELY HAPPY,
EVEN NOTING
THAT AS HE LIT
MY CIGARETTE,
HE MADE
A POINT OF
NOT TOUCHING
MY FINGERS!"



"I SAW A LOT OF DR. GREGG SAUNDERS AFTER THAT! I DIDN'T QUESTION WHY HE SOUGHT ME OUT, FOR I KNEW HAPPINESS NOW! ONE EVENING, WE WERE DRIVING PAST A LAKE -- IT WAS BEAUTIFUL --"

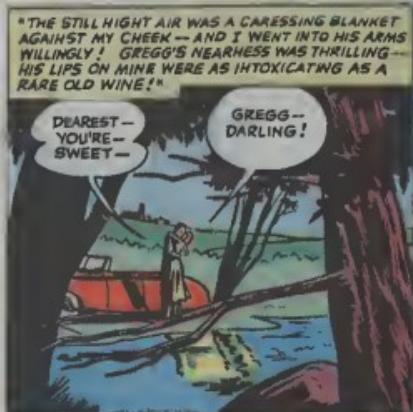
"OH, GREGG-- THIS IS IT-- IT ISN'T THE ONLY THING QUIET, SO PEACEFUL!"



"THE STILL NIGHT AIR WAS A CARESSING BLANKET AGAINST MY CHEEK -- AND I WENT INTO HIS ARMS WILLINGLY! GREGG'S NEARNESS WAS THRILLING-- HIS LIPS ON MINE WERE AS INTOXICATING AS A RARE OLD WINE!"

GREGG-- DARLING!

DEAREST-- YOU'RE-- SWEET--



"I WAS IN HIS ARMS -- CLOSE-- AND THEN IT HAPPENED. THIS WAS A MAN HOLDING ME-- AND LIKE AWFUL PHANTOMS FROM THE PAST, ALL OF MY OLD, BURIED FEARS SWARMED BACK UPON ME!"

LET ME GO -- LET ME GO. YOU'RE LIKE ALL THE REST OF THEM!"



"I GOT BACK TO THE HOUSE -- I STILL DON'T REMEMBER HOW -- THREW MYSELF ON THE BED -- SLEPT FINALLY! IT WAS A SLEEP OF NIGHTMARES -- STRANGE VOICES--FLITTING SHADOWS; FOEMLESS CREATURES CLUTCHED AT ME -- AND THROUGH IT ALL -- A TERRIFYING, NAMELESS DREAD!"



"I AWOKE, EXHAUSTED! SUDDENLY, THROUGH MY BENUMBED SENSES, I SAW A VISION-- GREGG, HIS FACE PATIENT, KINDLY! WHY, HE WASN'T LIKE THE NIGHTMARIAN SHAPES OF MY DREAMS-- NOT LIKE EARL OR THE OTHERS-- WHY HAD I RUN AWAY? WHY?"

I'LL GO TO HIM-- THROW MYSELF AT HIS FEET -- BEG HIS FORGIVENESS!



"I HAD NEVER BEEN TO HIS HOUSE BEFORE! IT WAS A FENCED ESTATE, A BIG PLACE--BUT IT SEEMED GENTLE, LIKE GREGG! PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THE IVY ON THE WALLS, THE TRELLIS..THE TRELLIS! NOT BELIEVING MY EYES, I STARED--"



"HE STRUCK -- BUT BEFORE HE COULD STRIKE AGAIN, I ACTED--DESERPATELY! IT WAS FOR MY LOVE --"



"I COULD FEEL THE MAN'S BREATH-- SEE HIS SMALL, BEADY EYES-- AND THEN AN IMMENSE HAND STRUCK ME!"

I HEARD GREGG SHOUTING-- OTHER VOICES-- AND THEN--"

"..BUT WAS IT? NO--IT COULDN'T BE--HE WAS TOO HORRIBLE! FASCINATED, I WATCHED HIM CREEPING TOWARD-- GREGG! THIS THING--EVERY PULSING FEAR I'D EVER KNOWN IN ONE FRIGHTENING FORM! I TRIED TO CALL OUT--WARN GREGG--BEFORE IT WAS TOO LATE!"



"THE NEXT THING I REMEMBER, I WAS LYING ON A COUCH! I HEARD GREGG'S VOICE--HE WASN'T HURT!"



"YOU WERE WONDERFUL--THE WAY YOU LEAPED AT HIM -- WONDERFUL, BECAUSE I KNOW HOW TERRIFIED YOU WERE! I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT--MEN! THAT'S WHY I LIED TO YOU ABOUT MY BEING AFRAID, TOO -- I WANTED YOU TO TRUST ME SO I COULD CURE YOU."



"NO--I WANT TO HELP YOU, ALICIA! YOU SEE, YOU HAVE A PHOBIA--AT SOME TIME IN YOUR LIFE, A MAN MUST HAVE FRIGHTENED YOU--BADLY! USUALLY--ALMOST ALWAYS-- THESE THINGS TRACE BACK TO CHILDHOOD! TRY TO REMEMBER--THINK--THINK--

"NO--THERE WAS NOTHING!"



"GREGG'S VOICE WAS SOOTHING, HYPNOTIC! MY MIND DRIFTED--I RECALLED HALF-FORGOTTEN INCIDENTS--I WAS BACK IN THE PAST OR BURIED MEMORIES! SUDDENLY, LIKE A MONSTROUS NIGHTMARE, A FACE--THAT FACE!"

"IT'S HIM--THAT MAN! OH, PLEASE--I DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER!"

"YOU MUST--THINK, ALICIA--REMEMBER!"



"I COULD FEEL MY LIPS MOVING! I WAS TELLING HIM WHAT HAD HAPPENED! I WAS SIX OR SEVEN--I HAD A BALL, PLAYING--IT BOUNCED AWAY--"

"WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA OF WAKIN' ME UP?"

"GEE, MISTER--I'M SORRY!"



"HIS FACE--A MASK OF HATE, BITTERNESS! HIS RED, PIGGISH EYES, GLARING--GLARING--

"MAYBE THIS'LL TEACH YUH--BRAT!"

"E-E-E-K!"



"YOU'VE DONE IT, DARLING--UNCOVERED THAT FRIGHTENING MEMORY WHICH MADE YOU FEAR ALL MEN!--YOU'LL NEVER BE AFRAID OF A MAN AGAIN!"

"I FEEL DIFFERENT--AS THOUGH A WEIGHT HAD BEEN LIFTED FROM MY SHOULDERS! I GUESS NOW--NOW THAT I'M CURED--IT'S ALL OVER--BETWEEN US! YOU CAN'T REGARD ME AS A PATIENT NOW--"



"ALL OVER? SILLY--IT'S JUST BEGINNING!"

"GREGG, GREGG! IF ONLY--IT WOULD NEVER END!"

the END





READERS' ROMANCES

Greetings, all you friends of "Romantic Adventures!" It's the good old summertime—time for play—time for romance!

So—in honor of this grand season—we've planned an innovation! Especially for this issue, we are dedicating this special page of *Readers Romances* to those among you to whom love is new—a fresh, shining and glamorous emotion that fills life with a pulse-quenching excitement. We shall attempt to serve youth this time, knowing full well that its problems are the greater for the lack of experience

with which to solve them. And let's not underrate these problems. Even if they concern no more than date difficulties, they're all a part of the first stirrings of romance! And it's all-important that those among our younger readers who are experiencing boy-girl problems receive sage counsel, in order that they may get off on the right foot in a search for a happy solution to their difficulties. No, we're not going to neglect you older readers—see our next issue for ample proof of that! For the present, however, let's delve into our mailbox, and see what's doing among the younger set. Here goes!

Dear Editors:

I am a boy 15 years of age. I have never been on a real date with a girl, but would like to very much. All the other boys I know have girl-friends. I don't know why, but girls don't seem to take to me very well. I think that I am fairly nice-looking. To tell you the truth, though, I have never asked a girl for a date, and wouldn't know just exactly how to. Could you tell me what to do?

—M. N., Augusta, Ga.

Well, M.N., you have got a problem there! We could say that dates needn't be a problem until you're older, but there's no reason why you shouldn't go out if you want to. And about girls not taking to you—it's only that your shyness has prevented them from

getting close to you. It will be an effort, but you can overcome it. Remember that nice girls want to go out with nice boys, and you sound like one. Just gather your courage and ask a few times—and you'll see that it isn't so hard!

Dear Editors:

I am 16 years old and I am still in love with a boy whom I liked in grammar school. It probably was puppy love for him, but not for me. We go to the same high school, but I only see him in one class. I can't make myself talk to him. I try, but my face gets red, my eyes tear and I get all choked up. He likes to go out with his boy-friends and 'plays the field' with girls. He seems to prefer girls who aren't so nice, but he is wonderful and comes from a good family. Please tell me how I can get him back. When we do talk, which isn't often, he brings up how we used to do things in grammar school, and that only makes me feel worse, because those were happy days. Please help me. I'm depending upon you!

—J. R., Buffalo, N. Y.

We can understand your problem, J.R.! Once again, shyness—and this time, from a girl! Obviously, you care a lot for this boy, since your feelings has remained unchanged from grammar school up. You can forget him "playing the field" with girls or preferring those who aren't so nice—the very fact that he likes to recall the things you did together in the past shows that he still thinks about you.

But you haven't given him a chance. Your shyness is keeping him at arm's length. Sure, you're self-conscious, ill at ease, afraid, and these are difficult things to conquer. But you've got to take a deep breath and wade in. Force yourself to talk to him whenever possible—about things he's interested in. Invite him to your home. You'll find it getting easier as you go along—and then the battle's half-won!

Dear Editors:

I have just finished reading how you solved a girl's problem, and I think you will be able to help me. I am 15, and my father doesn't allow me to date except on special occasions, and even then he insists on accompanying us. I go to a girl's school, and whenever I go to a school dance, I have to ask a boy to go with me. And I don't know what the boy thinks when I tell him that my father is taking us! Should I let my father take us to the dance until I am 16, or should I just stay at home? I like a certain boy very much, and wonder if I should let him kiss me goodnight if he should try. Also, how can I keep him interested in me? After our last date, he started ignoring me and taking out other girls.

—L. W., Houston, Texas.

Sounds like a predicament, L.W.! We know it's hard for a young girl not to be able to go out alone on dates, and we can see where the boy involved might not go for it, either. But you must remember that your father means well, and is doing this because he has only your welfare in mind. Why don't you discuss the matter fully with him, setting forth your side of it just as you explained it to us? If he still wishes to accompany you, remember that it's

only until you're sixteen, and try to accept it. And in this case, explain things completely to your date—if he's a nice boy, we're sure he'll understand! It will help you to keep him, as will being good company and inviting him to your home. And as far as letting him kiss you is concerned, remember that kisses should not be easily given. But if you know him well and he's of good character, a simple and respectful goodnight kiss shouldn't be harmful!

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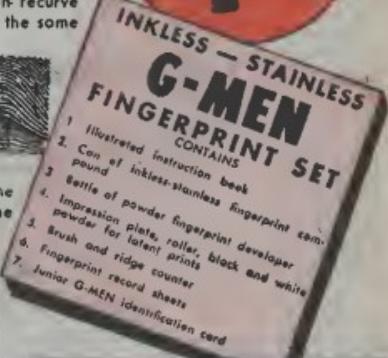


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LOVE takes a N O S E 'D I V E

"I longed to be the sweetheart of the airlines,
and my soaring heart refused to stay
grounded as an air-terminal waitress!
But with my eyes full of stardust and my
head in the clouds, I didn't realize how far
one could fall when--"

Love Takes A Nose-Dive!"

SAY, KITTEN, YOU'RE WASTING YOUR
TIME BEHIND THAT COUNTER! WHY, YOU'RE
BETTER-LOOKING THAN ANY AIRLINE HOSTESS
WE EVER HAD! WHY DON'T YOU APPLY FOR THE
JOB -- AND IF YOU BECOME A HOSTESS,
I'LL BE ABLE TO GET YOU
ASSIGNED TO MY PLANE!

HERE'S THAT
DOUBLE ORDER
OF BALONEY,
JOYCE!

OH, COULD YOU,
REALLY? ... I'D
LOVE THAT! I THINK I'LL
PUT IN MY APPLICATION
TODAY!



"DASHING PILOT WADE MANNING THRILLED ME --
AS DID THE PROSPECT OF BECOMING A HOSTESS!
BUT BACK IN THE KITCHEN, THERE WAS -- ARTHUR!"

"ARTHUR TOOK ME TO A BOWLING ALLEY
ON OUR DATE -- HE PROBABLY THOUGHT
IT ROMANTIC! MEASURING HIM
AGAINST THE GLAMOROUS PILOTS -- AGAINST
WADE --"

JOYCE, YOU CAN'T
KEEP TURNING ME
DOWN FOREVER!
HOW ABOUT
A DATE
TONIGHT?

IF IT'LL MAKE YOU
STOP BOthering
ME! I PROBABLY WON'T
BE WORKING HERE
MUCH LONGER,
ANYWAY!

A STRIKE! STILL
GOT THAT EYE I HAD
WHEN I WAS TAIL-
GUNNER ON A SUPER-
FORT! OR MAYBE
THIS IS JUST MY
LUCKY NIGHT --
BEING WITH YOU
AT LAST!

YES! WISH
I COULD
RETURN THE
COMPLIMENT!



"LATER, WHEN I WAS TRYING TO SAY GOOD-NIGHT, HE PULLED ME TO HIM SUDDENLY, IMPULSIVELY...."

JYCE... DARLING... I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU! WHY DON'T YOU STOP TREATING ME SO COLDLY?

"ALL RIGHT, SINCE YOU WANT AN ANSWER, I'VE GOT PLANS -- FOR ROMANCE, AS WELL AS GETTING AHEAD -- AND YOU DON'T PLAY ANY PART IN THEM! GOODBYE -- MR. SHORT-ORDER COOK!"

"I SAW HIS STRICKEN FACE -- BUT THE THOUGHT OF HANDSOME WADE MANNING DROVE HIM FROM MY MIND! BUT I COULDN'T GET CLOSE TO WADE UNTIL --"

"YOU'VE PASSED YOUR PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TESTS, MISS LYND -- AND YOU'RE APPROVED FOR THE JOB! I HOPE YOU'LL LIKE BEING AN AIRLINE HOSTESS!"

"YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW I'LL LIKE IT!"

"MY HEART FULL OF EXULTATION AND JOY, I WENT BACK TO SAY GOODBYE TO THE PEOPLE I'D BEEN WORKING WITH! I HOPED I WOULDN'T MEET ART, BUT I DID!"

"IF THIS IS WHAT YOU WANT, I'M HAPPY YOU GOT IT! BUT, JYCE, DON'T... LEAVE ME OUT OF YOUR LIFE!"

"OH, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP, ARTHUR?"

"MY TRAINING OVER, WADE GOT ME ASSIGNED TO HIS PLANE! I WAS HAPPY AS HOSTESS -- KNOWING I WAS SO CLOSE TO HIM AS HE PILOTED THE MIGHTY, THROBBING PLANE THROUGH THE SKIES..."

"FASTEN YOUR SAFETY-BELTS, PLEASE --- WE'RE COMING IN FOR A LANDING!"

"BUT I WAS EVEN HAPPIER ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN MY OFF-HOURS!"

"YOU'RE -- BEAUTIFUL, JYCE! STICK WITH ME AND WE'LL GO PLACES TOGETHER! I DON'T INTEND REMAINING JUST A PILOT -- I'M WORKING ON SOMETHING THAT'LL PUT ME IN SOLID WITH R.J. SAUNDERS, PRESIDENT OF THE AIRLINE!"

"WHY, THAT SOUNDS WONDERFUL--WADE!"

"JOYCE, JOYCE -- I CAN'T RESIST YOU!"

"... DARLING!"

"WITH HIS LIPS PRESSED DEMANDINGLY ON MINE, MY THROBBING HEART TOLD ME THAT THIS WAS MY MOMENT -- THIS WAS LOVE! I COULD THINK ONLY OF WADE, WADE, WADE!"

"THERE WERE DREAMS OF TENDER ROMANCE THAT NIGHT -- BUT THE NEXT---"

HONEY, THIS IS WADE! I'M SORRY I CAN'T MEET YOU AS WE'D PLANNED! WE'RE SCHEDULED FOR THAT 2 A.M. FLIGHT TO CLEVELAND, AND I THINK I'D BETTER REST UP BEFORE THE FLIGHT!

OH... ALL RIGHT, DARLING!



"I TRIED TO DISPEL MY LONELINESS BY GOING DOWN TO THE TERMINAL RESTAURANT! AND THERE WAS ARTHUR AGAIN -- THAT MOON-CALF LOOK STILL IN HIS FACE -- AND SOMETHING ON HIS MIND!"

LISTEN, JOYCE, I'VE MEANT TO TELL YOU BEFORE! THIS WADE MANNING YOU'RE RUNNING AROUND WITH IS PURE POISON! HE'S THE LOVE 'EM, LEAVE 'EM TYPE! BETTER STAY AWAY FROM HIM!

WHY, YOU... YOU...!



HOW DARE YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT ABOUT HIM! HE'S A BETTER MAN THAN YOU'LL EVER BE -- YOU JEALOUS, PETTY, CONTEMPTIBLE EXCUSE FOR A MAN!

OKAY, THIS'LL BE THE LAST TIME I TROUBLE YOU WITH MY ADVICE OR MY ATTENTIONS! BUT JUST FOR THE RECORD, WHY DON'T YOU LOOK IN AT THE COCKTAIL LOUNGE ON YOUR WAY OUT?

"MY HEART WAS FILLED WITH COLD RAGE AT HIS LYING WORDS ABOUT WADE -- HIS BRUTAL ATTEMPT TO DESTROY OUR LOVE! BUT A WOMAN'S CURIOSITY IS STRONG-- SO I STOPPED OFF AT THE LOUNGE..."



"I STOOD THERE HORROR-STRICKEN, REFUSING TO BELIEVE MY EYES OR EARS! AND THEN THE WORLD COLLAPSED AROUND ME, AND MY EYES WERE FILLED WITH BITTER, ANGUISHED TEARS!"

"IT HAD BEEN GLOWING LOVE TO ME -- BUT JUST A GAME TO WADE MANNING! I HAD TO REVENGE MY HURT, MAKE HER SEE HOW CHEAP AND SCHEMING HE WAS!"



WORKING ON SOMETHING THAT WOULD GET YOU IN WITH SAUNDERS, EH --- HIS DAUGHTER! AND AFTER ALL YOU TOLD ME ---

CH. GO AWAY -- BEAT IT! --- SHE'S JUST A LITTLE AIRLINE HOSTESS WHO'S BEEN THROWING HERSELF AT ME, EVE! SHE STARTED AS A WAITRESS --- AND SHOULD HAVE STAYED THAT WAY!

"I... I COULDN'T BEAR IT ANY LONGER! SOBBING MY HEART OUT, I RAN FROM THE LOUNGE, AND THE NIGHT SWALLOWED MY ANGUISH AND DESOLATION!"

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME...
NOTHING....!



"BUT I STILL HAD MY DUTIES AS HOSTESS THAT NIGHT! PERHAPS THEY WOULD HELP ME TO FORGET MY PAIN AND GRIEF! BUT WHEN I BOARDED THE PLANE..."

FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS,
PL---
ARTHUR!
WHAT---?

THE THERE WAS ONE THING I FORGOT
TO TELL YOU, JOYCE---
I'M GOING BACK TO
MY HOME TOWN!
I ONCE THOUGHT THERE
WAS SOMETHING TO
KEEP ME HERE -- BUT
THERE'S NOTHING
NOW!



"JUST THEN..."

LISTEN, WADE, YOU'RE IN
NO SHAPE TO FLY! LET
ME TAKE OVER
TONIGHT!

GET YOUR
HAN' OFFA ME!
YOU'RE ONLY
CO-PILOT---AN'
YOU'RE TAKIN'
ORDERS FROM
ME! I'M ALL
RIGHT---JUS'
CELEBRATIN'
A LI'L....



"AS WE TOOK OFF...
LITTLE KNOWING THAT
DEATH RODE THE
CONTROLS..."

OH!
WHAT---?

QUICK, JOYCE...
SOMETHING'S WRONG!
UNLOCK THE DOOR
TO THE PILOT'S
COMPARTMENT!



"I OBEYED BLINDLY! ... AND
THEN... COLD FEAR CLUTCHED
AT MY HEART AS I SAW
WHAT WAS HAPPENING!"

YOU CAN'T HANDLE THIS
PLANE! LET ME AT
THOSE CONTROLS!

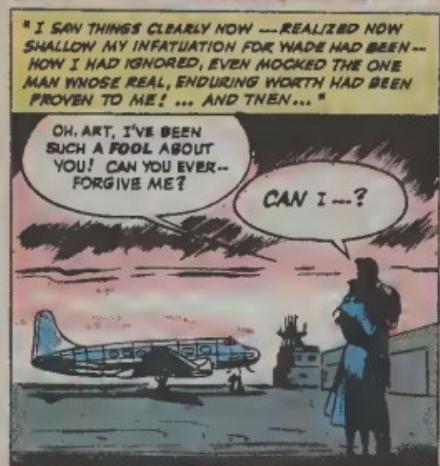
IF I DON'T FLY
THIS PLANE,
NOBODY
FLIES IT!



OHHH!—WE'RE OUT
OF CONTROL!
WE'LL
CRASH!

NOT IF
I CAN GET
MY HANDS ON
THAT STICK
IN TIME!







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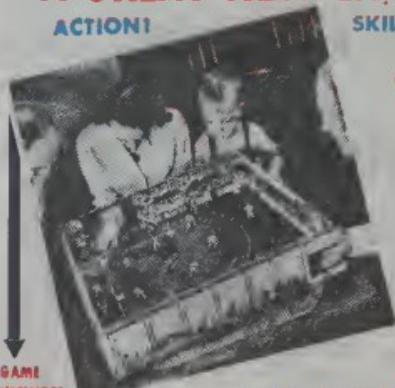
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How to Mold a Mighty Grip

How to Mold a Mighty Chest

How to Mold a Mighty Leg

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HAVE A SLIMMER, YOUTHFUL, FEMININE APPEARANCE INSTANTLY!



REDUCE

YOUR APPEARANCE! LOOK AND FEEL LIKE SIXTEEN AGAIN!

No other girdle or supporter belt has more hold in front. The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT is the newest, most comfortable girdle I ever had.

the laces and PRESTO your mid section is reshaped, your back is braced and you look and feel younger!

Don't look old before your time. Do as thousands of others do, wear a comfortable, new and improved UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT! The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT with the amazing new adjustable front panel controls your figure the way you want it, with added support where you need it most. Simply adjust

yourself and presto your mid section is reshaped, your back is braced and you look and feel younger!

MORE UP-LIFT AND HOLD-IN POWER!

The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT takes weight off tired feet and gives you a more alluring, more daringly feminine, curvaceous figure the instant you put it on. It gives you lovely curves just in the right places, with no unwanted bulges in the wrong ones. It whittles your waist line to nothingness no matter what shape you may now have. It's easily adjusted—always comfortable!

TEST THE ADJUST-O-BELT UP-LIFT PRINCIPLE WITH YOUR OWN HANDS!

Clasp your hands over your abdomen, press upwards and in gently, but firmly. You feel better don't you! That's just what the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT does for you only the ADJUST-O-BELT does it better. Mail Coupon and test it at home for 10 days FREE at our expense!



APPEAR SLIMMER, AND FEEL BETTER!



The UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT lifts and flattens unsightly bulges, comfortably, quickly, firmly. It readjusts easily to changes in your figure, yet no laces touch your body. It gives instant slenderizing figure control. It fashionably shapes your figure to its slimmest lines. Like magic the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT obeys your every wish. Pounds and inches seem to disappear instantly from waist, hips and thighs. You can adjust it to your slimmed down figure as your figure changes. It gives the same fit and comfort you get from a made-to-order girdle costing 2 to 3 times the price. It washes like a dream. Style: Panty and regular. Colors nude and white. It's made of the finest stretch material used in any girdle with a pure satin front panel and made by the most skilled craftsmen. It's light in weight but powerfully strong.

It won't roll up, bulge or curl at the top. It gives extra-double support where you need it most. No other girdle at any price can give you better support, can make you look better, feel better or appear slimmer. Sizes 24 to 44 waist.

ONLY.....\$3.98

Money - Back Guarantee With A 10-Day FREE TRIAL

If the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT isn't better than any supporter you ever had, if you don't feel more comfortable, if you don't look and feel younger, if your shape isn't 100% IMPROVED, if you are not delighted with it, return it and your money will be refunded, in full.

New amazing NYLON laces will be sent free with your order. Try them instead of your regular laces. You may keep them FREE even if you return the girdle.

FREE:

SEND NO MONEY

ADJUST-O-BELT CO., Dept. 33

1025 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Mail your new and improved UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT for \$3.98. In 10 days we'll send you \$3.98 plus postage and handling. If I enclose \$3.98, you pay postage plus handling.

CHECK SIZES: Sm. (22-26) Med. (27-28) Lg. (30-31) XL (32-33) XXL (34-35) XXXXL (36-44)

XXXXL (38-46) 4XXXL (42-44)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY ZONE STATE

I understand I am not obligated with the UP-LIFT ADJUST-O-BELT. I can return it in 10 days for full purchase price refund.

SENT ON APPROVAL

Romantic Adventures

SEPT. 1949

Cover BALD & RISS ~~SET~~

THE CROOKED ROAD TO ROMANCE

BALD & RISS ~~SET~~

12

THE HEART ON THE FLYING TRADEZE

BALD & RISS

9

MATCH-MAKERS DON'T MARRY

SULTAN

8

I FEARED MY HEART

AL HARTLEY

8

LOVE TAKES A NOSE-DIVE

BRICE?

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